The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020.

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Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mrs. Haddad of Somerset in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

At the request of the Chair (Mrs. Haddad), the members and employees joined with her in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Orders.

The following order (filed by Mr. Honan of Boston) was referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Housing be granted until Sunday, May 31, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current House documents numbered 1257, 1316 and 3924.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4596), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Housing committee,—extension of time for reporting.

The following order (filed by Mr. Honan of Boston) was referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Housing be granted until Sunday, May 31, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current House document numbered 4517.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4597), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The following order (filed by Mr. Hay of Fitchburg) was referred, under Joint Rule 30, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently:

Ordered, That notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Labor and Workforce Development be granted until Friday, June 5, 2020 within which time to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 1045, 1052, 1060 and 1088, and House documents numbered 1651, 1681, 1683, 4192, 4313, 4563, 4564, 4565, 4566 and 4567.

Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committees on Rules, reported that the order (House, No. 4594), ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the order was considered forthwith; and it was adopted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Id.

Labor and Workforce Development committee, extension of time for reporting.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Mr. D'Emilia of Bridgewater, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Angelo L. D'Emilia and others for legislation to authorize on-premises consumption licensees to sell certain current inventory of alcoholic beverages to members of the general public who are not under twenty-one years of age.

By Ms. Domb of Amherst, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mindy Domb and others that the Department of Transitional Assistance be authorized to administer a \$50,000,000 local food access emergency fund to provide financial assistance to food pantries severely affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

By the same member, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Mindy Domb and others for legislation to suspend payment and collection of student loan payments provided for post-secondary education or vocational training during the COVID-19 emergency declaration and to designate certain outstanding bonds used to fund said loans as general obligation bonds.

By Representative Rogers of Cambridge and Senator Jehlen, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of David M. Rogers, Patricia D. Jehlen and others for legislation to further regulate unemployment assistance during public health or public safety emergencies.

By Representatives Sabadosa of Northampton and Mark of Peru, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others that all persons who become unemployed as a result of COVID-19 have access to MassHealth coverage.

By the same members, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Paul W. Mark and others relative to rent freeze and rent control during the state and federal state of emergency declarations of March, 2020.

By Ms. Sabadosa of Northampton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others relative to pretrial services during the COVID-19 declaration of emergency.

By Ms. Sullivan of Abington, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Alyson M. Sullivan and others relative to prohibiting price gouging of goods, services and supplies during a declared public health emergency.

By Mr. Williams of Springfield, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bud L. Williams for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Jessica Ocasio, an employee of Department of Transitional Assistance.

By the same member, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bud L. Williams for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Kimberly Brantley, an employee of Department of Developmental Services.

By Mr. Zlotnik of Gardner, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Jonathan D. Zlotnik and Dean A. Tran for legislation to authorize acting mayors to operate with the authority of mayors during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

The following order, having been approved by the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been adopted by said branch, as follows:

Restaurants,—alcohol inventory.

COVID-19,—food access fund.

COVID-19,—student loan debt.

Emergencies, unemployment assistance.

COVID-19,— MassHealth coverage.

Rent freeze and control.

COVID-19,—pretrial services.

Price gouging.

Jessica Ocasio, sick leave.

Kimberly Brantley, sick leave.

COVID-19,—mayoral authority.

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Election Laws be granted until April 30, 2020, within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 389, relative to eligible lists of voters.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Wong of Saugus, the order (Senate, No. 2582) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

Election Laws committee, extension of time for reporting.

Id.

The following order, having been approved by the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been adopted by said branch, as follows:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on Election Laws be granted until June 1, 2020, within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 408, relative to supporting parents running for public office.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the order (Senate, No. 2583) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

The following order came from the Senate with the endorsement that it had been adopted by said branch, as follows:

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Joint Rule 10, the committee on the Judiciary be granted until May 12, 2020, within which time to make its final report on current Senate document numbered 2571, relative to judiciary.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the order (Senate, No. 2606) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

Judiciary committee, extension of time for reporting.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the following petitions:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Marjorie C. Decker and others relative to relief payments for recipients of the transitional aid to families with dependent children and emergency aid to the elderly, disabled and children programs within the Department of Transitional Assistance. To the committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Paul W. Mark, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others relative to absentee voting for the 2020 state primary and general elections. To the committee on Election Laws.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Paul W. Mark, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others for legislation to expand unemployment insurance benefits to certain employees due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration. To the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Mike Connolly, Kevin G. Honan and others relative to a moratorium on evictions and foreclosures during the COVID-19 emergency declaration. To the committee on Housing.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Paul W. Mark and others for legislation to appropriate funds to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency for emergency funding for certain homeless services. To the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Transitional aid to families.

Absentee voting.

COVID-19, unemployment benefits.

COVID-19, evictions and foreclosures.

MEMA, homeless services. Petition (accompanied by bill) of James J. O'Day and others relative to providing certain state employees sick leave for COVID-19 related absences. To the committee on Public Service.

COVID-19,—sick leaves.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

COVID-19,—first responders.

By Parisella of Beverly, for the committee on Public Service, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4611) of James Arciero and others relative to creating a presumption of job relatedness for certain public safety personnel and first responders suffering from incapacitation or inability to perform their duties as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection or exposure,— and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. Under Rule 42, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following House bills be scheduled for consideration by the House:

Establishing a sick leave bank for Victoria Deschamps, an employee of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (House, No. 4575); and

Establishing a sick leave bank for Racquel Jean-Louis, an employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department (House, No. 4585);

Under suspension of Rule 7A, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth, the bills severally were read a second time forthwith; and they were ordered to a third reading.

By Mr. Mahoney of Worcester, for the committee on Public Health, on the

Parkinson's disease,— awareness.

Victoria Deschamps.

Racquel

Jean-Louis.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to the practice of medicine (House, No. 2000).

recommitted petition, a Bill relative to Parkinson's Disease public awareness and

education (House, No. 1886).

Medical practice.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill modernizing childhood lead poisoning prevention (House, No. 2010).

Lead poisoning.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to safe patient handling in certain health facilities (House, No. 3487).

Patient handling.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill to require public universities to provide medication abortion (House, No. 3841).

Medication abortion.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a joint petition, a Bill relative to the bulk purchase of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (House, No. 4202).

Epinephrine.

Severally referred; under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

By Mr. Mahoney of Worcester, for the committee on Public Health, on a petition, a Bill to amend Section 5K(E) of Chapter 111 (House, No. 1970).

Power plants.

By the same member, for the same committee, on a petition, a Bill relative to community radiological emergency response funds (House, No. 3492).

Radiological funds.

Severally read; and referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Emergency Measure.

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Falmouth as the Deputy John Robert Kotfila, Jr. memorial bridge (see House, No. 3170, amended), having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, was considered, the question being on adopting the emergency preamble.

Falmouth,— Kotfila bridge.

A separate vote was taken, as required by the provisions of Article XLVIII (as amended by Article LXVII) of the Amendments to the Constitution; and the preamble was adopted, by a vote of 3 to 0. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Bill enacted.

Subsequently, the Senate having concurred in adoption of the emergency preamble, the bill (which originated in the House) was passed to be enacted; and it was signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Exempting certain affordable housing in the South End section of the city of Boston from public procurement laws (see House, No. 3696); and

Bills enacted.

Authorizing the city of Methuen to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see House, No. 4142, amended); (Which severally originated in the House);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Recess.

At twelve minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mrs. Haddad of Somerset being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at eighteen minutes after six o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mrs. Haddad in the Chair.

Recess.

Paper from the Senate.

The House Bill to address challenges faced by municipalities and state authorities resulting from COVID-19 (House, No. 4598), came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2619. Referred, under Rule 35, to the committee on Bills in the Third Reading. Said committee then reported that the amendment was correctly drawn.

COVID-19,—government challenges.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston then moved that the House concur with the Senate in its amendment with a further amendment striking out all after the enacting clause (inserted by amendment by the Senate) and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4612; and the further amendment was adopted.

The House then concurred with the Senate in its amendment, as amended. Sent to the Senate for concurrence in the further amendment.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

Ms. Provost of Somerville moved that when the House adjourns today, it do so in respect to the memory of Mary E. Fantasia, a member of the House from Somerville from 1971 to 1978, inclusive; and the motion prevailed.

Accordingly, at twenty-one minutes after six o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mrs. Haddad of Somerset being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Thursday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.